Exodus of people from Kashmir and Punjab

273. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the condition of the refugees from the Kashmir valley and Punjab who had been forced to leave their hearts and homes in the wake of recent disturbances there;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the relief measures taken so far for their rehabilitation; and

(c) the steps being taken to stop further influx of the people from those States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) More than 10,000 families have left Kashmir Valley for Jammu, and more than 1,000 for Delhi; and some families migrated to other parts of the country;

So far the Valley is concerned, the Governor's adminstration is making necessary arrangements so that people from the minority community who have left their health and homes, have been given necessary protection, and have been put up at certain segregated locations; in addition, arrangements have been made for them to be taken to enable them to visit their immovable properties at least twice a week. Two Relief Commissioners for Jammu & Kashmir Division, who will be in charge of the relief work connected with the Kashmiri migrants have been appointed in the Valley.

For migrants at Jammu, the Governor's administration has made the following arrangements:

(a) Accommodation in public buildings and provision of ration to the needy, medicines and sanitary coverage;

(b) Strengthening of public distribution system in localities where the migrants have taken shelter, and issuing temporary ration cards;

(c) Placing of sufficient funds at the disposal of Deputy Commissioner, Jammu so that any contingency expenditure can be met.

In respect of migrant families from Punjab, the following facilities have been provided to the migrant families who have returned to the State:

(i) Transport Allowance at the rate of Rs. 5,000/- per family;

(ii) Ex-gratia grant of Rs. 5,000/- per family;

(iii) Allotment of LIG house or in lieu of that, rental allowance at the rate of 1,250/- per month;

(iv) Bank loan upto Rs. 25,000/- without security or margin money with subsidy at the rate of 20 per cent of the loan amount subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000/-

Steps taken to check migration from Punjab includes strengthening police arrangements and measures to curb terrorism and to improve law and order situation in the State.

Devolution of power to the North-Eastern Provincial Council

274. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held discussions with the Sri Lankan authorities over the pace of devolution of powers to the North-Eastern Provincial Council and safety of Tamils before complete withdrawal of the IPKF;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions and its outcome; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take with regard to the safety and security of the Tamils there?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Government has held several rounds of discussions, at various levels, with the Government of Sri Lanka on these issues. Government have also made special efforts to bring to an end intercine fighting between Tamil groups. The Government of Sri Lanka has reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring the safety and security of all communities in the North-Eastern Province and to expediting the implementation of the devolution package.

(c) With the deinduction of the IPKF the direct responsibility for the security and safety of Tamils in the North-Eastern Province will rest with the Sri Lanka Government. However, Government will continue to monitor the situation.

India's plea to other countries against agressive postures of Pakistan

275. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries whom Government have recently approached through their emissaries to explain Pakistan's recent aggressive postures; and

(b) what was the attitude of the Government of each of those countries individually?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) While our Special Envoys have so far visited the USA, USSR, Kuwait, Iraq, Alegeria and Egypt many more Governments have also been otherwise contacted at diplomatic levels in this regard. Broadly speaking, our point of view has been widely appreciated.

Construction of bridges and roads in Kerala

276. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

What is the number of the roads and bridges to be constructed in the State of Kerala with the allocation from the Central Road Fund for the 8th Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): Accruals to Central Road Fund (CRF) from a State are earmarked for development of roads and bridges in that State. The release of funds is regulated by the total cost of the schemes sanctioned funds already released and the budgetary allocation available for the purpose. In Kerala six schemes were sanctioned during 1988-89 and 1989-90 at an estimated cost of Rs. 528.76 crores. The major part of the execution of these schemes would take place in the Eighth Plan. The number of road and bridge projects to be taken up during Eighth Plan period would depend on the size of the projects proposed by the State Government, accruals to Central Road Fund for the State and availability of annual budgetary allocation for the Central Road Fund programme.

Crossing the line of actual control by Pakistani nationals

277. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which attempts were made by Pakistani nationals to cross the line of actual control and enter the Indian territory since January, 1990;

(b) what steps Government have taken to repulse such attempts;

(c) whether any protests have been lodged with Pakistan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) February 11, 1990 in Uri sector of Jammu & Kashmir. Earlier, on